

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Tree Felling and Clearing (Non-Production) (Level 3)

Qualification number: 2336

Date of review: 28 November 2018

Final decision on consistency of the qualification: National consistency is confirmed

Threshold:

The threshold to determine sufficiency with the graduate profile was determined as evidence of:

Graduates operating in roles outside of the forest industry (non-production) that involve the felling and clearing of trees, with the skills and knowledge required to carry out this work safely and effectively under limited supervision.

Graduates can:

- Use a chainsaw for basic operations and carry out basic maintenance.
- Safely fell a range of tree sizes, in a variety of conditions, using conventional felling cuts in a non-production situation.
- Plan and manage the safe felling or clearing of hazardous trees in a non-production tree felling situation.

Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Education Organisation	Final rating
Competenz	Sufficient

Introduction

The purpose of this 43-credit qualification is to provide graduates capable of planning and undertaking the felling and clearing of trees under limited supervision, in roles outside of the forest industry (non-production).

Competenz, the Industry Training Organisation (ITO) was the only education organisation providing a training programme that leads to the award of this qualification. A Competenz representative presented an explanation and evidence of how their graduates matched the graduate profile outcomes. Competenz is also the developer of the qualification and another Competenz representative participated in the review in this role.

There were 64 graduates in the review period from 2015- 2017.

Evidence

The education organisation provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that its graduates met the graduate outcomes. The evidence provided related to the robustness of the programme and its alignment with the graduate profile; feedback from graduates and employers; and graduate destination data.

The criteria used to judge the evaluation question were:

- The nature, quality and integrity of the evidence presented by the education organisation.
- How well the education organisation has analysed, interpreted and validated the evidence, and used the understanding gained to achieve actual or improved consistency
- The extent to which the education organisation can reasonably justify and validate claims and statements relating to the consistency of graduate outcomes, including in relation to other providers of programmes leading to the qualification.

How well does the evidence provided by the education organisation demonstrate that its graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold?

Programme-related evidence

The training and assessment of the graduates took place in tree felling and clearing (non-production) workplaces. This context provided a strong source of real-world evidence to demonstrate the graduates were able to match the graduate profile. Additionally, the education organisation provided the following:

- A programme outline showing which unit standards mapped against the qualification graduate profile outcomes.
- Pre-moderated ITO-developed assessment material and assessment schedules for chosen unit standards.
- A record of the moderation activity and results, showing that most assessors and most of the unit standards in the Programme of Industry Training have been recently moderated. Largely, moderation confirmed the assessment judgments made. The education organisation has appropriate procedures in place to address any issues.

This was good evidence that the training, assessment and moderation was robust, and this provided confidence in the capability of these graduates

Destination evidence

Evidence was provided that 50% of the graduates were employed in roles involving felling and clearing of trees, including in roles outside of the forest industry (non-production). This was good evidence that the graduates had followed the expected employment pathway.

Stakeholder feedback evidence

Surveys of the graduates and their employers asked each stakeholder to rate (on a scale of 1 to 10), how well the graduates demonstrated each of the graduate profile outcomes. There was clear consensus among the employer and graduate survey respondents that the graduates demonstrated each of the graduate profile outcomes, though the graduates rated their level of competency slightly higher than their employers.

The combined evidence along with the analysis undertaken provided a convincing case that the graduates match the graduate profile outcome at the appropriate threshold.

Examples of good practice

Final consistency review report

The education organisation provided convincing evidence of robust processes and self-assessment practices to ensure programme quality and consistency, particularly within assessment and moderation. The evidence provided was clear and accompanied by a narrative which created coherence and directed the reviewer to pertinent aspects of the submission.